

the **knockout**
makers



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3

kyoko hashimoto

the **knockout**
★ makers

VOL. 3
By Kyoko Hashimoto



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



The Knockout Makers

Kyoko Hashimoto

3



The Knockout Makers Volume 3

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ISBN: 978-1-59816-826-6

First TOKYOPOP printing September 2006

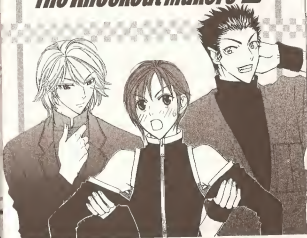
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Printed in the USA



The Knockout Makers
CHAPTER 11

The Knockout Makers ≡



Ryoshei Matsuda
Begins

Toshihiro Sakuma
Makenp

Nobuo Shirakawa
Hair

What's The Knockout Makers

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◆ The Knockout Makers (or K.O.M.) are allies of girls who desire beauty above all. Their website store opens for only 10 minutes in the middle of the night, and only the lucky ones have their true beauty revealed by these expert beauticians!



ONE DAY DURING MY SECOND WINTER AFTER COMING TO JAPAN.

One day Kaitafestival.

Sanjin, Kaitafest, Tomoe no Shiro

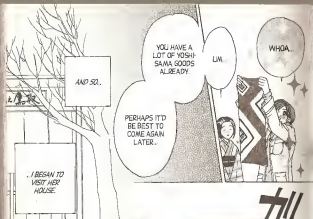
Arbitrary K.O.M. Q&A Corner

#1

Thanks to you, K.O.M. will be serialized to completion. Incidentally, I've been pressed to answer various questions that arose over the 3 volumes. If you're like, "Questions? There were questions?" Well, just read, okay?

First, Q. #1 "Didn't Toshihiro already graduate from university? So what's he graduating from in the last chapter?"

Yes, he did. In Chapter 1 of Volume 1, Toshihiro himself said, "I'm a graduate!"...In other words, over these 3 volumes, he has been a graduate of an American university (Bachelor of Arts), returning to America from time to time and sending written reports by mail from Japan for credit. He graduated at 14, too. You're so smart, Toshi-kun!



AND SO.

YOU HAVE A LOT OF YOSHI-SAMA GOODS ALREADY.

LW...

WHOA...

PERHAPS IT'D BE BEST TO COME AGAIN LATER...

I BEGAN TO VISIT HER HOUSE.



HELLO, TOSH!

THE GIRL, KURINO TAKATORI LIVED WITH THE SHOP OWNER HER GRANDFATHER

WELCOME, TOSHIKURO-KUN!

OH! THE SUIT FROM THE GREAT SHOP DROPS RIGHT!



LOOK AT THIS!

SHE WAS 18 YEARS OLD, SAME AS ME

THIS IS THE TOWEL JIHEE USED IN ANJIMA SHINJUTEN



MORNING...

AH.



SAKURAGOOCHI KABUKI DANCE!!

FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM ON STAGE BUT...

I HEARD OF HIM FROM A YOSHI-KI FAN.

3000 YEN 300-YEN

DID YOU KNOW HE HAS A DANCE AT THE END OF THE MONTH?

THE ONE WITH KYOKO YONAKURA, THE ACTRESS!!

OH YOSH!



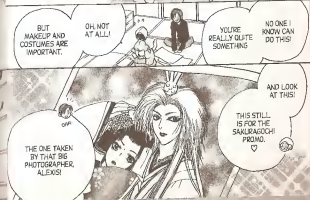
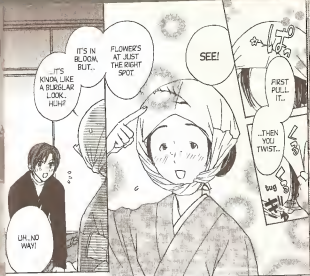
ACTUALLY AT MY FAMILY'S TOWEL SHOP...

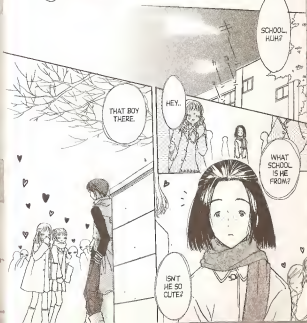
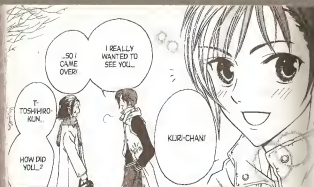
GRANDFATHER MAKES THE TOWELS WITH YOSHI-SAMA DESIGNS.

WOW, SERIOUS!!

SO YOU'RE A...

YES! I'M A YOSHI-SAMA FAN!







ASH -
SORRY
I'M MAKING
US LATE.

WHY...

...DO THEY
CALL YOU
"KUROKO"?

TH-
THAT'S



-UN?



BUT I'VE
COME TO
LIKE IT!

...BECAUSE WITH
THIS FACE NO ONE
NOTICES ME.

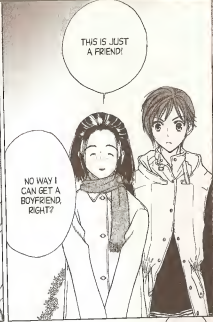


THEY'RE
IMPORTANT
PEOPLE IN
KABUKI.

THE
KUROKO-

-THE
STAGEHAND-
HELPS THE
ACTORS
PERFORM.

THEN
ACT LIKE
YOU'RE
WORTHY!



THIS IS JUST
A FRIEND!

NO WAY I
CAN GET A
BOYFRIEND,
RIGHT?

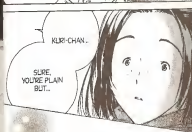


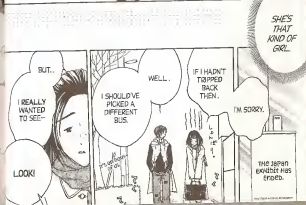
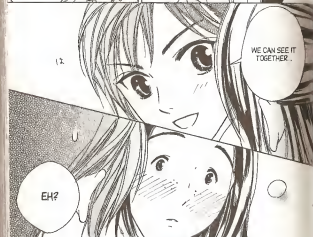
LET'S HURRY,
TOSHIKIRO-K-

YEAH,
KUROKO'S
LOOKS
TELL MEN...

THAT'S
FOR SURE!

...TO STAY
FAR, FAR
AWAY!







THEY WANNA
SEE STUFF
FROM THEIR
ERA.

I THOUGHT
SAKURAGOOCHI
MIGHT LEAD
TO SOMETHING.

I'M SO
GLAD I'M
IN, BUT...

THE
AUDIENCES
ARE ALL
OLDER
THAN MY
GRANDPA.

TRADITION'S
GREAT, BUT
I WANT
OTHER
AUDIENCES.

SUCH
AS...



EH?

...A HIGH
SCHOOL
COUPLE LIKE
YOURSELVES.

WE'RE
NOT!

EH?

SAKUMA-
KUN AND I
ARE JUST
FRIENDS!



YO!

WELCOME
BACK, KURIKO-
CHAN

WHOA...

THE REAL,
LIVE YOSHIKI
BANDO...



AH, YOU
MEAN THE
SAKURAGOOCHI
DANCE!

I'M GONNA
SEE IT FOR
SURE!

SERIOUSLY?!

WHAT'RE YOU
DOING HERE?!

ORDERING A
TOWEL FOR
MY NEXT
DANCE.

EH,
SERIOUSLY?



SMALL,
BUT VERY
CHARMING

IT'S FOR
DANCING
WITH YOU
AFTER ALL.

KYOKO
YONEKURA!!!

THE
MUSICIAN



I CAN GET
THEM CUSTOM
MADE HERE.

THEY'RE
QUITE FINE
FOR THE
STAGE.



NOTHING.



EH,
SERIOUSLY?

I'M TAKING
DANCE LESSONS
DURING DRAMA
BREAKS.
Y'KNOW?

SO WE CAN
BE ON THE
FINEST OF
STAGES.

GO SOLO

YOU WON'T
BEAT ME.

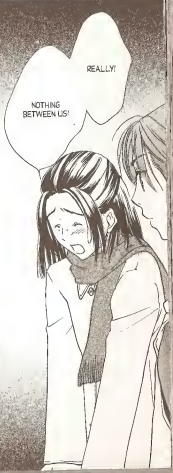
YOUR
DUPPI
BEE AND
FIRE...

HEHE
AH, YES.

BUT TOWEL
DANCES ARE
THE MAIN
EVENT IN
SAKURAGUCHI.
YES?

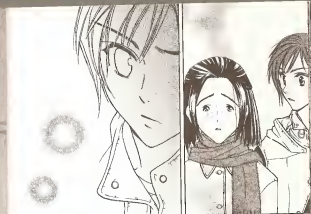
SHE DENIED
IT SO HARD,
TOD.

SO KAKU'S
FROM
IT IS.



REALLY?

NOTHING
BETWEEN US!





...TO BE
HAPPY.

I WANT
KURI-CHAN.

DON'T SAY
"LIKE ME."

FOR THAT,
I'D...

IT'S OKAY.

I'LL
MAKE YOU
CONFIDENT.

I WANT
YOU TO
SMILE

YOU'LL SEE,
KURI-CHAN.

I'LL MAKE
YOU PRETTY.

SORRY.

I GET IT,
REALLY.

EH?

KURI-CHAN

KURI-CHAN

BOTH
SO PRETTY

SO
APART
FROM MY
WORLD...

I'M A TOWEL-
MAKER'S
DAUGHTER

IF I CAN
MAKE GOOD
TOWELS FOR
YOSHIKUN-SAN.

FOR A
PLAIN GIRL
LIKE ME...

...TO BE A
STAGEHAND
IS ENOUGH.

KURI-
CHAN.

...THAT'S
ENOUGH.
OR SO I
THOUGHT

THOSE AIDED BY
K.O.M. CANNOT
BE CONTACTED
EVER AGAIN.

..WHAT
THIS
MEANS

I TRUST
YOU
REALIZE..

WHA-!

KAY, KAY!

I CAN MEET
YOUR FRIEND
TOD!

IN OTHER
WORDS..

..I KNOW
THAT.

..YOU CAN
NEVER SEE
KURIKO-SAN
AGAIN

KURI-
CHAN!

K.O.M. IS A MYSTERIOUS
BEAUTY GROUP..

SO, KNOWING
THE CLIENT'S
DESIRES, I
TOSHIRO
SAKUMA..

..AM ACTING
AS THE
CLIENT'S RE-
PRESENTATIVE.

GOT
IT?

..HE
DOESN'T
HAVE A
CELL..

WELL..

..COMPOSED
OF A BEAUTY
BASICS
EXPERT..

THE CLIENT
AFTER HIDE
TAKATORI
IS..

..A TALL
HAR-
STYLIST..

HE'S OLD HE
CAN'T EVEN
GET TO THE
SALON.

..AND A YOUNG
MAKEUP ARTIST.

THE CLIENT
WANTS US
TO "MAKE MY
GRANDDAUGH-
TER KURIKO
PRETTY"?



...I'LL SATISFY WHATEVER BEAUTY DESIRES.

...YOU HAVE KURU-CHAN.

WE KNOCKOUT MAKERS...



THAT'S RIGHT.

THE ONES YOU CONTACT BY CELL PHONE?

YOU REALLY EXIST?

BUT...

I DIDN'T MAKE A REQUEST...

HEY, KURU-CHAN...

K.O.M.?



NO NEED TO RUSH BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS.

THE SAKURA-GOCHI TOWEL?

ER, I'M ON AN ERRAND.

I'M SORRY FOR BEFORE, CRYING LIKE THAT...

EH?

W-WHAT?!

BEFORE THAT...

...COME WITH ME!



TOSHIRO-KUN.

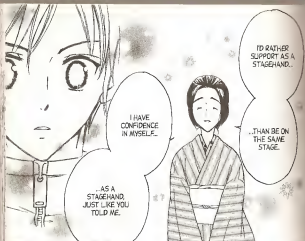


REMEMBER? I MADE A PROMISE...

...THAT TO MAKE YOU PRETTY.

EVERYTHING'S ALL SET.

DRESSING ROOM
CORRIDORS
AGE 17-18



I HAVE
CONFIDENCE
IN MYSELF...

...AS A
STAGEHAND,
JUST LIKE YOU
TOLD ME.

TD RATHER
SUPPORT AS A
STAGEHAND...

...THAN BE ON
THE SAME
STAGE.



BESIDES...

SO, I'M
SORRY BUT...

...I
STAY AS
I AM.



K.O.M.'S ALL
ABOUT TRUST,
RIGHT?

3M
MAKING ME
PRETTY
BECAUSE
WE'RE
FRIENDS...

...IS UNFAIR
TO THE GIRLS
MAKING
PROPER
REQUESTS.

YEAH,
THAT'S
WHY.



THAT'S A
WISH I CAN
GRANT.

NOW.

YOU'LL BE
A WOMAN
MORE VIVID
THAN KYOKO
YONEKURA

LET'S
MAKE YOU
BLOOM.

DON'T YOU
WANT TO
WALK SIDE
BY SIDE WITH
YOSHI-SAMA?



...YOU TOLD
ME TO
HAVE CON-
FIDENCE,
RIGHT?

I WAS...
REALLY
HAPPY
THEN

THAT'S
WHY...

TOSHIRO-
KUN...

STATE YOUR
DESIRE,
KURI-CHAN.



WAIT
HERE...

NO WAY.

LIV...

WE CAN'T
GO IN
TOGETHER,
HUH?

AND I CAN'T
IN THESE
CLOTHES
ANYWAY.

BUT...

HEY, YOU
DON'T
TRUST MY
SKILL?

IT'S MY
FIRST TIME
WEARING
MAKEUP...

I DIDN'T

...UNTIL
I'M DONE
DELIVERING
THIS, OKAY?

TADAHIRO-
KUN

THEN...

THAT'S NOT-

...GET
MOVING

YOU TOO,
TOSHIRO-
KUN.

THE
BEST OF
FRIENDS.

...YOU'RE
THE BEST,
KUBO-CHAN



BUT I LOVE YOU.

...KUBO-CHAN.

OKAY!

EHP?

BUT...

WELL,
CAN I...
...AT LEAST
GIVE YOU A
MAKE-OVER
FOR YOUR
TROUBLES?

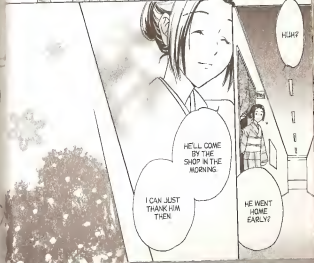
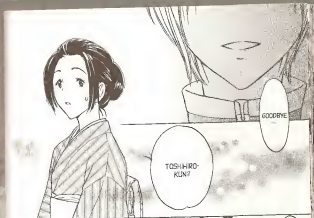
I
PROM-
ISED!

IN THAT
CASE...

THAT
OKAY?
HAIR AND
CLOTHES
STAY THE
SAME

NOTHING
BIG





HEY!
RYOHEI!

"I'M TAKING IT BACK."

...HEI

"OF ALL
PEOPLE..."

"OF ALL
PEOPLE..."

...TO BOW
THEIR HEAD?"

"MASTER RYOHEI!"

"JUST WATCH
FROM THE
OUTSIDE."

"YOU CAN
STOP ME."

"YOUR FATHER..."

...STOLE THE
KANAME FAMILY
FROM MINE."

→ See you next Knockout!

CHAPTER 11/END



The Knockout Makers
CHAPTER 12



YULIKA.



YEAH.

HEY!
YOU'RE IN
CHARGE,
RIGHT?

A BAD
DREAM.

YOUR
CLIENT'S
COMING
OVER.

RYOHEI-
SAN...

BE-
CAUSE
IT WAS
ABOUT
KANAME.

ULTRA-DIRECT.

WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO RYOHEI?

HEYA, YULKA-CHAN.

NOBUO, WAIT!!

WHAT'S THEIR RELATIONSHIP?

I'LL GO ASK.

EH?

EH?

RYOHEI-SAN'S MY HALF-BROTHER, YOU SEE.

ER, LHM...

YOU'RE RYOHEI-SAN'S LHM... CO-WORKERS?

HMM?
DID YA HEAR THAT, TOSHIKO-SAN?

HEIRESS OF KANAME COSMETICS.

YULKA KANAME (18), THIRD-YEAR, PRIVATE GIRLS' SCHOOL...

I THOUGHT THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY.

I'M SORRY...

...BUT I HAD TO MEET YOU.

Arbitrary K.O.M. Dev Corner

(cont.)

So, for our second question! "Is Nobuo a licensed Hairstylist?" ...OK, that's right. Nobuo's 19. But, to get a Hairstylist license, you need to spend a minimum of two years at an aesthetics college after graduating from high school, right? The exam qualifications are set in stone so, he'd have to graduate HS at 17, and Pass HIS exam at 20. So, did Nobuo lie about HIS age?? Well, He's a Host isn't He? (meaning unclear)

AH, an all-new mystery has been born...the mystery of what year He was born. Question three! "What age is Ryohei, right here right now?" You'll get a precise answer!



...EVEN IF
IT MEANS
HANDING THE
PRESIDENT'S
CHAIR TO HIM.

YOUR
FATHER
BELIEVES A
PERSONAL
CONNECTION
TO THIS
MAN IS
ESSENTIAL.

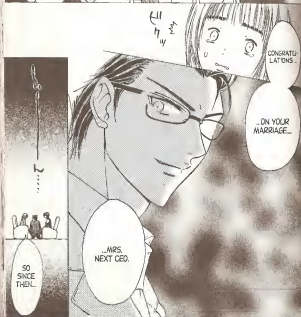
BECAUSE
OF
OPPOSITION
TO LOISEAU
ENTERING
JAPAN.

SURELY
YOU
KNOW OF
FRANCE'S...

...VENERABLE
LOISEAU
BLEU
COSMETICS.

ER,
Y-YES.

HEY



CONGRATU-
LATIONS.

...ON YOUR
MARRIAGE...

...MRS.
NEXT CEO.

SO
SINCE
THEN...



you're only here now

RYOHEI-SAN'S
COMPLETELY
OUT OFF FROM
FATHER NOW.

YOU MEAN
RYOHEI'S HEIR
TO KANAME
COSMETICS?!

ER,
YES,
BUT...

RIGHT NOW,
KANAME'S
DIRECTOR IS
HIROAKI-SAN,
A COUSIN,
NOT A BLOOD
SUCCESSOR.

NOT
LINKED BY
BLOOD?

ER, YOU
SEE...



lot of gossip
about

COMPLI-
CATED, HLH?

OUR FATHER'S
THE SON OF
THE LAST
GENERATION'S
PRESIDENT.

HIROAKI-
SAN'S THE
ELDER MALE,
BUT FATHER
ADOPTED HIM.



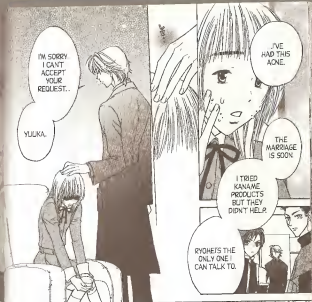
MARRY
THIS
PERSON...

...RIGHT
AFTER I
GRADUATE?

YES.

AND
THEN
TWO
WEEKS
AGO...

THERE
ARE HARD
FEELINGS
ON BOTH
SIDES.





MISS YULKA...

...WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

ENOUGH PLAYING AROUND.

YES

SO THAT'S THAT HIRAKA-SAN?

SO SOMEONE CAN ACTUALLY TELL RYDHEI OFF?

ACHA ACHA ACHA

HA HA HA



SURELY A COSMETICS CORP DAUGHTER CAN HANDLE AONE

...WITH YOUR PRECIOUS FIANCE...

TO SKIP OUT ON YOUR FIRST MEETING...



WHAT'S THIS?

NO TOURS OF THE GARDEN!

I WANTED TO SEE THE MANSION!

...DID YOU TWO COME HERE?

YULKA!



MASTER RYDHEI, IS IT?



MY, MY.



I AM TRULY HONORED.

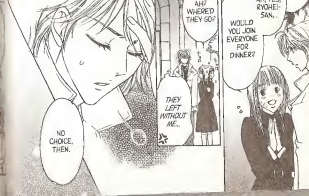
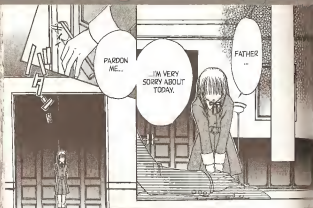
HA HA HA

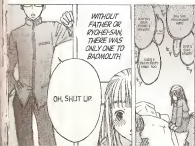
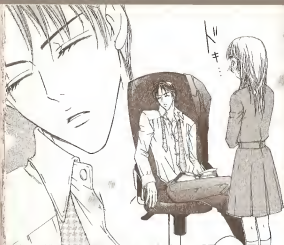
THEY HELPED GREATLY.

I AM SO PLEASED THEY HELPED YOU!

THANK YOU FOR THE PRECIOUS MUSHROOMS EARLIER.







WITHOUT
FATHER OR
RYOHEI-SAN,
THERE WAS
ONLY ONE TO
BAGNOLITH

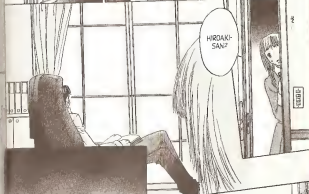
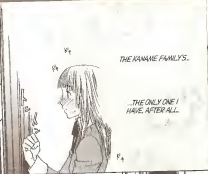
OH, SHUT UP.

HIROAKI-
SAN...

IT WAS TEN YEARS
AGO, AT THE WAKE
FOR MY MOTHER.

SHE'D DIED OF ANXIETY
FROM ALL THE RELATIVES
WHO OPPOSED...

...SUCH AN "UNSATURABLE"
WIFE FOR THE PRESIDENT



LIM...

MAYBE SHE'S
READING?



HIROAKI-SAN.

YOUR EYE LASHES

...ARE LONG HUH?



ONE DAY
SHE
DIED

NO
ONE
EVER

THAT CHILD'S
A SAINT
FOR TAKING
THAT FROM
BLOODSUCKING...

DON'T
GET ME
WRONG!

...MONEY-
GRUBBING,
FOUL-MOUTHED
ADULTS
LIKE YOU.

THE FORMER PRESIDENT WAS CHILDLESS FOR
SO LONG, HE ADOPTED HIROAKI-SAN'S FATHER...

...BUT AFTER MYHONG AND I WERE BORN
HE LEFT IT ALL TO OUR FATHER

PLUS HIROAKI-SAN'S FATHER DIED SOON AFTER
SO HE WAS ISOLATED IN THE FAMILY.

I DON'T
HAVE...

...ANY
ATTACHMENT
TO THE BRAT.



HE WAS PROMOTED TO
DIRECTOR ON MERRY
AT A YOUNG AGE

IT WAS HARD, BUT HE PULLED
THROUGH AND GAINED
HIS WORKERS' TRUST

HE
DROPPED
OFF OF HIS CHAIR

JOJO
SAVING



COME WITH US.



...ON BREAK 'TIL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, RIGHT?





GOOD-
NESS.

WHAT'S
SO GOOD
ABOUT HIM?



TH-THAT'S
OBVIOUS!

FOR MY
FANCE.



WE'LL
BE BACK
THEN.



K.O.M. IS A MYSTERIOUS
BEAUTY GROUP...

COM-
POSED OF
A TALL
HAIR-
STYLIST...



...A YOUNG
MAKEUP
ARTIST.



HUH?

HE'S
ARROGANT,
PRIDEFUL...

YOU'RE
ONE TO
TALK!

...OVER-
BEARING
AND
ABUSIVE.



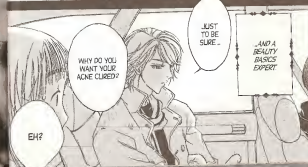
NO WAY!

AND ISN'T
CONFIDENCE
A GOOD
THING?

HE GOES
STRAY
WITHOUT
THROWING
FAMILY A-

THAT'S
RIGHT.

HE'S SHARP-
TONGUED,
BUT THAT'S
ONLY TO
GET BY



JUST
TO BE
SURE...

...AND A
BEAUTY
BASICS
EXPERT

WHY DO YOU
WANT YOUR
ACNE CURED?

EH?



LEAVE IT
TO ME.

YULKA,
I HUMBLLY
ACCEPT...

...YOUR
DESIRE
TO BE
BEAUTIFUL.

RYOHEI-
SAN...

I WANT YOU
TO CURE
MY ACNE.

I WANT TO
CHARGE
STRAIGHT
AHEAD, TOO

I DON'T
WANT ANY
REGRETS!



WHEN YOU
GET DOWN
TO IT...

...I ACTUALLY
LIKE THAT
PART ABOUT
HIRONO...

SAME FOR
YOU?

UNLIKE ME,
WHO LEFT
HIS BLOOD
RELATIVES
BEHIND...

...HE
CHARGES
STRAIGHT
AHEAD TO
CHANGE
THEM



EVEN
THOUGH
I'M A KID...

YES.

...10 YEARS
YOUNGER
THAN
HIRONAKI-SAN

ALWAYS.
THAT'S
WHY...





YOU ALWAYS
HELPED
WHEN I HURT
MYSELF
FALLING...

YES!

AH, I SEE
I APPLIED
MANY
MEDICINES
TO YOU BACK
THEN, YES?

SOME-
THING
WRONG?

AH...
NO.

I REMEM-
BERED
WHEN I WAS
LITTLE

FALLING... HOW
MUCH MUST IT
HURT FOR HER
TO SAY THAT?



YOU'VE
CHANGED.
HAVEN'T
YOU?

HIS
FALLEN
IN LOVE
AND CAME
TO K.O.M

THAT TINY
YUKKA...



YOU'RE
STILL MY
GENTLE
BIG
BROTHER.

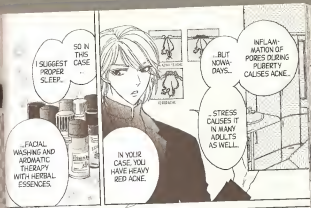
BESIDES,
YOU
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
AT ALL.

ENOUGH
THAT
FATHER
WANTS
TO MARRY
YOU OFF.

N-NO
WAY!

I HAVEN'T
CHANGED
AT ALL!

AND
SO...



I SUGGEST
PROPER
SLEEP.

SO IN
THIS
CASE

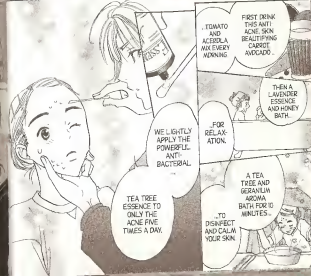
..FACIAL
WASHING AND
AROMATIC
THERAPY
WITH HERBAL
ESSENCES.

IN YOUR
CASE, YOU
HAVE HEAVY
RED ACNE.

...BUT
NOWA-
DAYS...

..STRESS
CAUSES IT
IN MANY
ADULTS
AS WELL.

INFLAM-
MATION OF
PORES DURING
PUBERTY
CAUSES ACNE.



..TOMATO
AND
ACEROLA
MIX EVERY
MORNING

FIRST DRINK
THIS ANTI-
ACNE SKIN
BEAUTIFYING
CARROT
AVOCADO.

THEN A
LAVENDER
ESSENCE
AND HONEY
BATH.

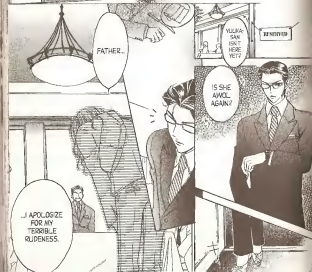
..FOR
RELAX-
ATION.

WE LIGHTLY
APPLY THE
POWERFUL
ANTI-
BACTERIAL

TEA TREE
ESSENCE TO
ONLY THE
ACNE FIVE
TIMES A DAY.

A TEA
TREE AND
GERANIUM
AROMA
BATH FOR 10
MINUTES..

..TO
DISINFECT
AND CALM
YOUR SKIN





TO BE
HONEST...

I MUST
CONTINUE MY
EDUCATION...

...I CAN'T
CONSIDER
MARRIAGE
NOW...

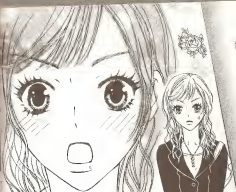


PLEASE
FORGIVE MY
SELFISH
WORDS

IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE
ME...

...AND I
WANT THE
MAN THAT
I LOVE...

...TO NOTICE
ME AND MY
PURSUIT



PLEASE...

...RESCIND THIS
MARRIAGE!





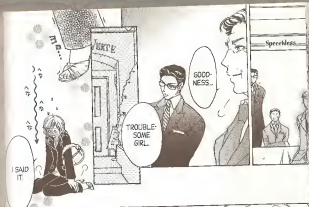
TO THINK YOU
COULD PUT
ON SUCH A
DISPLAY.



I PITY THE
MAN YOU'RE
AFTER.

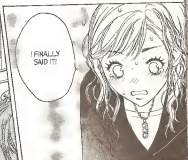


IT'S YOU,
HIROAKI.



TROUBLE-
SOME
GIRL.

GOOD-
NESS...



I FINALLY
SAID IT!





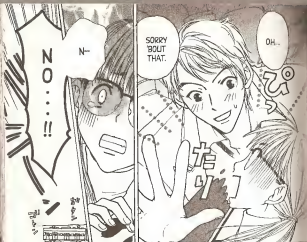


The Knockout Makers

CHAPTER 13



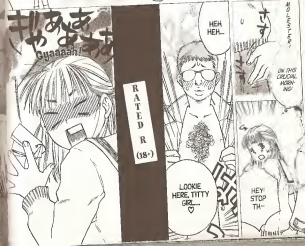
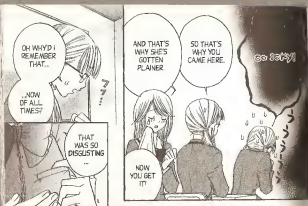
→ See you next Knockout!



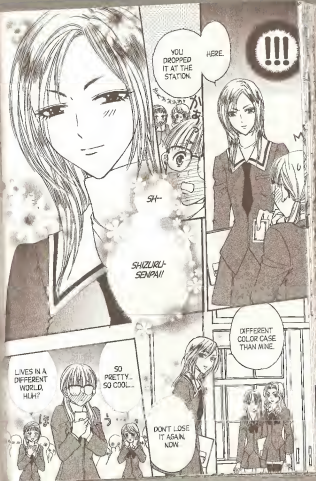
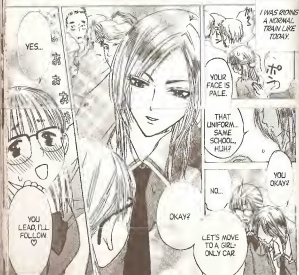
Arbitrary K.O.M. Q&A Corner (cont.)

First, at the very least, Ryohel is (obviously) older than his younger sister (who is 18). He entered K.O.M. on company contract five years earlier. That's probably when he left his family and was disowned by his father (for working for a rival company; even a father must put the business first)...so he must have graduated high school. He looks younger than his cousin Hiroaki so, around 23. "Around"...I did say I'd be precise, but, oh well, that's what makes Ryohel so mysterious, right? So pull yourself together!!

Let's jump to question number four!! "Why does getting a girlfriend mean quitting K.O.M.?"



RATED R (18+)



WE'RE THE
KNOCKOUT
MAKERS!

I'M
TOSHIMI.
♡

I AM
RYOKO.
♡

EH?

MAYBE I
CAN'T DO
THIS..

WHAT'S
WRONG?

YOU
HAVEN'T
THANKED
HER..
..FOR
THAT, RIGHT?

..IS GOING TO
GRADUATE
SOON.

BUT.. SENPAI'S
SO MUCH MORE
RADIANT.

A PLAIN GIRL
LIKE ME CAN'T
EVEN TALK
TO HER!

..WAS
LIKE A
PRINCE
♡

AT THE
TIME
SHIZURU-
SENPAI..

WELL, I GUESS IF
I WOULD GOSSIP TO
TALK TO SENPAI
SOME DAY..

THAT
LOVELY
SENPAI OF
OURS..

I HATE
PERVS!

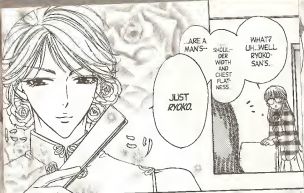
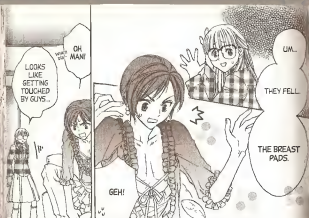
SO THAT'S
WHY I
MADE THE
REQUEST.

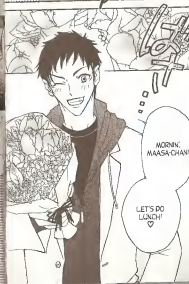
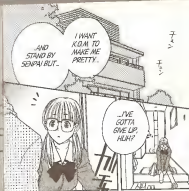
BUT I
WANNA BE
MORE LIKE
SENPAI

WITH ME,
NOBUO-
SAMA, AND..

LEAVE
IT TO
ME!

MAASA-CHAN,
I'LL GRANT
YOUR DESIRE TO
BE SUPER-CUTE!









YOU'VE
TOUCHED HER
BEFORE, HUH?

JERK.



SURE, WHY
NOT?

...TO THE
STATION
MASTER?

HOW
SOUL
WE TAKE
HIM...

POOR GIRL...
SHE WAS
SHAKING.



FEELIN'
LUCKY HUH,
POPS?

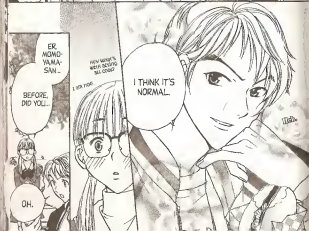
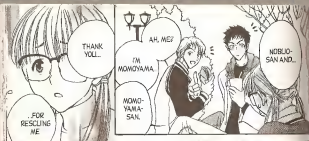


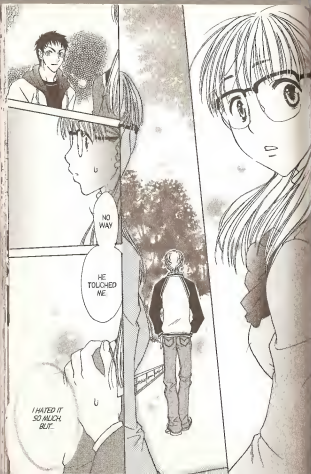
DON'T
DENY IT.

I DIDN'T
D-

WA!

WA!







...CAUSES
YOU
MENTAL
FATIGUE
AND
PESSIMISM

BAD
GLASSES,
STIFF
SHOULDERS
FROM
MOLESTER
STRESS
AND LARGE
BREASTS...

真井
マヰ

AS BLOOD
CIRCULATION
IMPROVES,
SWELLING
WILL EASE

真井
マヰ

YOU CAN
MASSAGE
YOUR KENSI
AND TESARI
POINTS FOR THE
STIFFNESS

SAVONARA
TO THESE
OBTRUSIVE
GLASSES, I DO
RELIEVE

BURSTING
WITH
COOLNESS
AND
CUTENESS
NOW, HUM?

SO?

YOU'LL
FEEL
REFRE-
SHED.

LET'S GET
YOU SOME
STRONG WILL
TO RESIST
MOLESTERS!

YOU
CAN RAISE
YOUR VOICE
TO SENPAI
NOW?

AND PEARL
ON THE
NOSE BRIDGE
ITSELF

THEN
POWDER TO
SHADE THE
SIDES AND
NARROW
THAT ROUND
NOSE

BISTRE
SHADOW TO
LINE THE EYES,
AND GRADES
OF CORAL FOR
THE EYELID.

I'LL USE
BROWN
PENCIL... JUST
ABOVE THE
EYEBROW,
SHADED WITH A
BRUSH.

PLEASE,
DON'T HOLD
BACK!

YOU'RE
SHAKING.

YOU
OKAY?

I'M ALL
RIGHT.

WE'LL
DO SHORT
FRENCH
PLINK

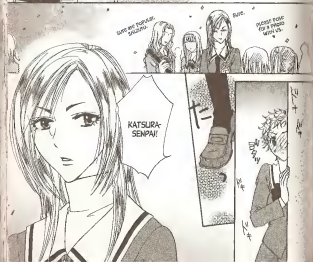
SO FOR
A TOTAL
IMAGE
CHANGE...

I'LL CURL
AND BLOW-
DRY THE
ENDS FOR
WISPY,
BOUNCY
CURLS.

...AND
TWIST THE
BUNCHES
SOME MORE
AND SPRAY.

...AND
TAPER
THE
ENDS SO
THEY
BUNCH
UP.

WE'LL
USE A
RAZOR
FOR A
JAGGED
CUT...



YOU LOST
YOUR ID, TOO.

WE WENT TO
THE GIRLS-
ONLY CAR.

SO TWIN...BUT
YOU'VE CHANGED
SO MUCH.

IT REALLY
SUITS YOU

NO NEED
TO THANK
ME.

IT'S QUITE
NORMAL,
AFTER ALL.

BESIDES,
THAT WAS—

AM?

THAT FEELS
JUST LIKE...

SHI-
ZURU!

I REMEMBER

HEARD HIS NAME
EVER...

I'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO
SAY THIS!

"THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH!"

FOR
ENROLLMENT
DAY.

...THAT
IS!

YOU PROBABLY
DON'T REMEMBER,
SENPAI, BUT...



IT'S LIKE
SHE GOT
DUMPED.

HEY, UH...



SHOULDN'T
YOU
FOLLOW
UP?

IT'S
OKAY!

DID YOU
SEE HER
SMILING
FACE?

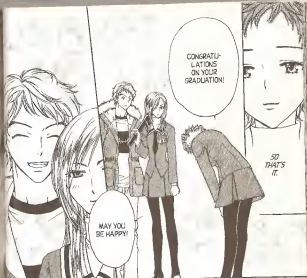
JUST
AS IT
SHOULD
BE...



I'M STILL
BAD WITH
MEN BUT...

...I KNOW
I'LL FIND
SOMEONE I
CAN TRUST...

...LIKE
SHIZURU-
SENPAI AND
MOMOYAMA-
SAN!



CONGRATU-
LATIONS
ON YOUR
GRADUATION!

SO
THAT'S
IT.

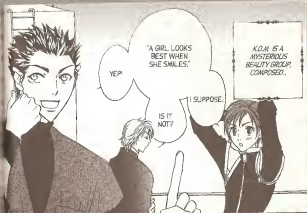
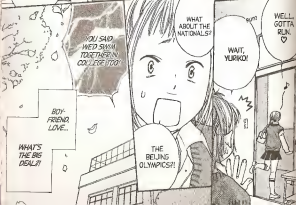
MAY YOU
BE HAPPY!



SO NICE I WANT...

...TO BE LIKE THEM
SOMEDAY.

YEAH,
I WILL.



→ See you next Knockout!



The Knockout Makers

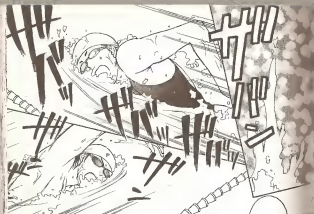
CHAPTER 14

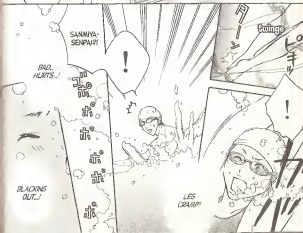


Arbitrary I.O.M. Q&A Corner (cont.)

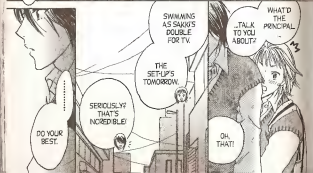
#4

As to why getting a girlfriend means quitting, a real-life girlfriend could cause problems with clients and the whole mysterious beautiful group thing...for example, the feeling that "my girlfriend's the prettiest" and the standard by which other beauty should be judged, though still only a possibility, once it happens, it's too late. Being elite compared to normal workers (well, closer to volunteers to be precise), they operate by their own, independently created rules.









#5

Arbitrary K.O.M.
Devil Corner

(Cont.)

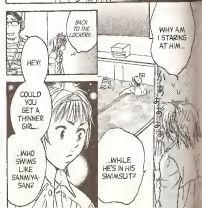
Last one! Question
number five!

"So who preceded
Ryohet and Nobuo?"

Right, right.
Toshihiro was
preceded by his
Master, Mr. "Hayami
Takamasa" (now
age 27). In the first
place, Ryohet has
no predecessor.
He was a founding
member. Despite
a nasty smoking
habit, Nobuo
adored his
predecessor, "Ken
Bro," a brilliant
hairstylist. A
"Kettaro Kusaka"
was in at the same
time as Kento Inui.
But, he left before
the final roster was
set. Incidentally,
he was a very
self-centered, free-
spirited person,
suddenly going
off on a journey
(Africa somewhere),
and so quit
K.O.M....passing
his traits down to
Nobuo. Ah, maybe
Toshihiro too.



I'LL BE
CHEERING
FUSHIMI
ON, TOO.



BACK TO THE
LOCKERS

HEY!

COULD YOU
GET A
THINNER
GIRL...

...WHO
SWIMS
LIKE
SANNIVA-
SANT?

...WHILE
HE'S IN HIS
SWIMSUIT?

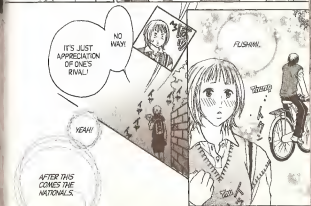
WHY AM I
STARING
AT HIM...



...I'LL CHEER
YOU ON AS
MUCH AS
I CAN.

I WISH
I COULD
SWIM AS
WELL AS
YOU.

I'VE
DECIDED
THAT WHILE
I'M HERE...



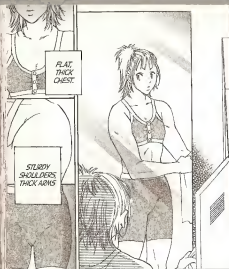
NO WAY!
IT'S JUST
APPRECIATION
OF ONE'S
RIVAL!

YEAH!

AFTER THIS
COMES THE
NATIONALS.

FUSHIMI.

That's



FLAT,
THICK
CHEST.

STURDY
SHOULDERS
THICK ARMS



HA
HA...

CHANGE
AND GO
HOME...

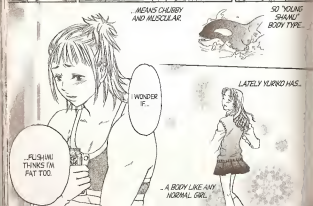


BUT NO ONE
THINNER CAN
SWIM LIKE
SANNIYA CAN

HER BUILD'S
WHY SHE'S
JAPAN'S YOUNG
SHAMU, SEE.

EH?

SHE'S THE
SAME
HEIGHT,
BLT.
...LOOKS
LIKE SHE'S
THREE
SIZES
BIGGER
THAN
SAGGI



...MEANS CHUBBY
AND MUSCULAR.

SO "YOUNG
SHAMU"
BODY TYPE.



LATELY YURINO HAS...

WONDER
IF...

...FUSHIMI
THINKS I'M
FAT TOO.

...A BODY LIKE ANY
NORMAL GIRL.



YOUR
TALENT'S
BIG, THAT'S
ALL.

ER
...NO!

HA...



YEAH,
THICK AND
NO NECK,
HLH?

HA HA HA,
I DO LOOK
LIKE A
WHALE!

AH HA
HA HA
HA HA
HA HA!

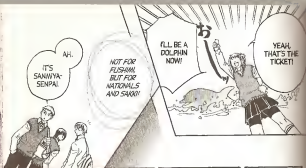
...SHE
WAS
SAYING...



...I'M
FAT?

YOU
MEAN...





IT'S SANIYIYA-SENPAI!

AH.

NOT FOR FUSAMI, BUT FOR NATIONALS AND SAKOJI

I'LL BE A DOLPHIN NOW!

YEAH, THAT'S THE TICKET!



MUST LOSE WEIGHT!

WITH MY SWIMMER'S STRENGTH.



NATIONALS ARE CLOSE, HUH?
SHE'S REALLY INTO IT.



RUNNING AT THIS HOUR?

I SAW HER BEFORE MORNING PRACTICE!



I'LL BECOME A DOLPHIN!

ONLY MY KISSING

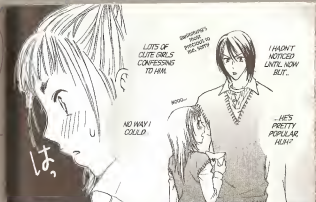
ONLY MY KISSING

I'LL GET AT LEAST A LITTLE THIN!

THIN!

AND SO...

DOING SWIMMING



LOTS OF CUTE GIRLS CONFESSING TO HIM.

WHENEVER YOU APPROACH HIM, THEY

I HADN'T NOTICED UNTIL NOW BUT...

NO WAY I COULD.

SHE'S PRETTY POPULAR, HUH?



EAT THIS DURING PRACTICE!

"FOR YOUR BODY'S SAKE."

EVER SINCE COACH SAID THAT TO ME...

I'VE BEEN EATING THEM UNCONSCIOUSLY

ENERGY BAR...

HEY!

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM!

DIDN'T REALIZE I HAD IT

HABITS ARE AMAZING!

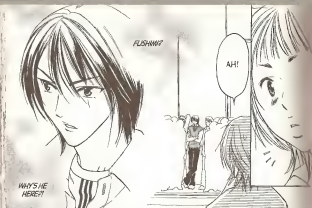
...I'LL LOSE WEIGHT?

THIS

HMM?

SO IF I DON'T EAT THIS...

AH!



FLASHING?

AH!

WHY'S HE
HERE?!



Jump



SHOULD
THE
THAT?

OH MAN,
RIGHT BESIDE
SAKKI?

LAL...

I LOOK SO
FAT!

BUT THE
REHEARSAL!

I WOULD
DO IT!

HAHA?

I'M
FEELING
DIZZY.

SANNNYU-
SAN?



I'M NOT
WORN
OUT...

Rehearsal



YOU'RE
MY BODY
DOUBLE?

CAMERA
REHEAR-
SAL DAY

HELLO,
I'M REN
SAKURAGI!

NOT AT
ALL!

IS WEARING
YOU OUT



I CAN'T
WEAR
THAT?

NOT RIGHT
BESIDE
HIM



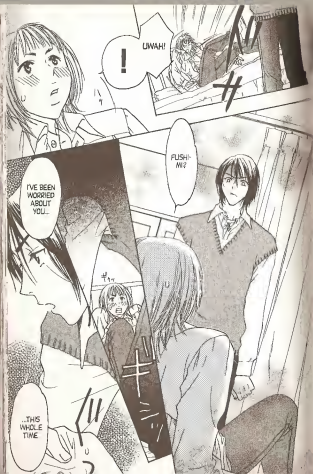
SAKKI'S THING!

JUST
NOW

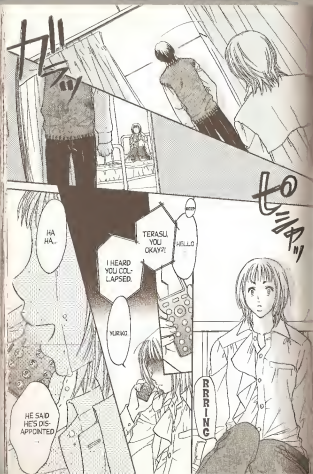
I'M FINE!

SHOPPING
BREAK!
FAST
MIGHT'VE
BEEN BAD

EVEN
SO.







I WAS
WRONG.

THAT'S THE
SEMPAI
I RESPECTED.



I'M VERY
DIS-
APPOINTED.



I THOUGHT YOU
HAD PRIDE IN THE
YOUNG SHAMU.

...YOU BUILT
UP EVERY
DAY FOR
SWIMMING.

TO THE GOOD
TEAMMATE
BEFORE THE
COMMERCIAL.

I WANT
TO GO
BACK!

FUSHIMI
WOULDN'T
SUPPORTED
ME WITHOUT
THE DIET.

I'M SO
STUPID.

...YOU
WON'T GO
BACK...

...TO WHEN
YOU
WEREN'T
FOND
OF HIM,
RIGHT?

...AND A
YOUNG
MAKEUP
ARTIST.

EVEN IF
YOUR
BODY'S
THE SAME
AGAIN.

...A TALL
HAIR
STYLIST.

...OF A
BEAUTY
BASICS
EXPERT.

NO
NEED
TO GO
BACK.

TERASU
SANNIN,
& TOSHIRO
SAKUMA...

SO, LET'S
TAKE THE
FIRST STEP!

...OF K.O.M.,
ACCEPT YOUR
DESIRE TO BE
BEAUTIFUL.

K.O.M. IS A MYSTERIOUS
BEAUTY GROUP
COMPOSED.

TERASU...

YOU
MEAN
THAT
YOU...

NOW
FUSHIMI
HATES
ME.

IF I
KNEW
THAT...

I WOULDN'T
HAVE TRIED
TO LOSE
WEIGHT!

...BUT LOG
ONTO THIS
SITE...

...AT EXACTLY
MIDNIGHT,
OKAY?

I DUNNO
WHAT
HAPPENED

IF YOU'RE
LUCKY,
THEY'LL
HELP YOU.

THE
KNOCKOUT
MAKERS...

NEXT,
BOOT-CUT
JEANS...

...MAKE
THICK
THIGHS LOOK
THINNER!

KIND OF A
ROCK FEEL,
HUH?

WE MAKE THE
FORELOCKS
STAND UP
IN FRONT...

I'LL MAKE
IT MORE
ANDRO-
GYNOUS,
THEN!

...AND
APPLY
WAX FOR
RANDOM
TOP
BUNCHES

...AND USE
SILVER SHADING
ON A THIRD OF
THE LOWER LID
TO HIGHLIGHT
THE WHITES.

I'LL THICKLY
LINE THE
UPPER LID TO
ACCENTUATE
YOUR IRISES.

I'LL
APPLY
VOLUMIZING
MASCARA
TO TOP AND
BOTTOM.

AFTER
CURLING THE
INNER LASHES...

...AND I'LL
THE INTERIOR
WITH SOME
BROWN
GLOSS.

I'LL
OUTLINE
THOSE
LARGE LIPS
WITH BEIGE
LIPLINER...

NOW!

GO KNOCK
OUT SOUTA
FUSHIMI!

...AND PROPER
REST, WHICH
IS CRUCIAL TO
BODYBUILDING.

AND THREE
BALANCED
MEALS FEATURING
SCALLOPS AND
CHICKEN WING
TIPS TO RESTORE
ENERGY.

FIRST, SLOW
30 MINUTE
SWIMS FOR
SHAPING.

AFTER,
THREE SETS
OF 25-METER
FREESTYLE,
FOUR
SETS OF
SPRINTING...

THEN, TOFU
AND PAPAYA
COCOA-
FLAVORED
JUICE TO
RESTORE
YOUR SKIN

WELCOME
TO THE
K.O.M.
POOL.

FOR THE
WEEK
UNTIL THE
SHOOT...

...YOU
WILL
REGAIN
YOUR
LOVELY
SKIN AND
BUILD

SO, LET'S
GET TO
WORK.

HEY!
REALLY
TIGHTENED
THINGS UP

AND ONE
WEEK
LATER.

START WITH
SHORT WOLF
BANGS FROM
THE TOP.

A HAIR
ARRANGE-
MENT LIKE
SAKAI

FIRST!

...WITH PARTED
FORELOCKS CUT
LONGER ON THE
RIGHT SIDE.



JEEZ.

WHY'D YOU SAY THAT?

WELL, NO WONDER.

BUT YOU JUST WATCH.

I'LL SWIM PRETTIER THAN ANYONE.

STARTING THE REAL THING!



...EASY ON THE EYES THAN SAKKI!



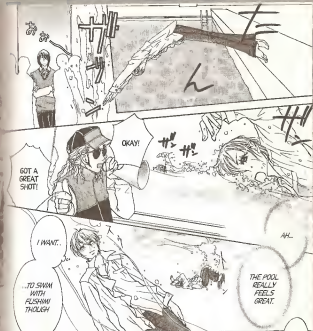
HEY, SOUTA.

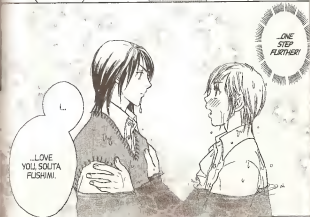
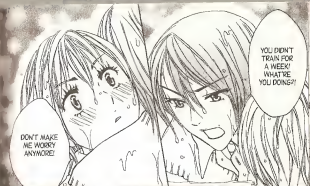
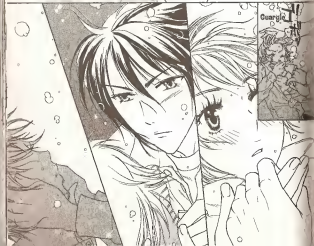


IS THAT SANMIYA-SENPAI?

SHE'S MORE...

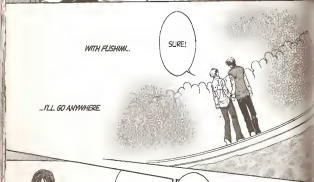








...TAKE
THE LEAD
SOMETIMES.



WITH FLUSHING...

SURE!

...I'LL GO ANYWHERE



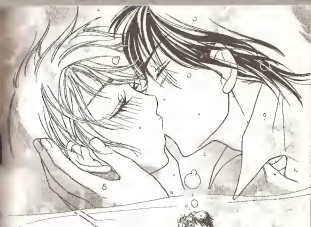
I'D DO
THAT IF
I WERE
HIM, TOO.

...I'LL DO A
REAL SAKKI
COMMERCIAL
NEXT TIME.

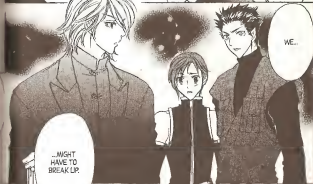
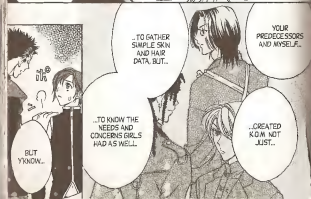
THE PART
WHERE
THEY'RE IN
THE WATER
WORKS WELL...

THE
PRODUCER
LOVED
THAT
SCENE
SO...

We needs
Love &...



LET
ME...



→ "Break up"? It's impossible!



The Knockout Makers

SEPTEMBER 16



„K.O.M.
HAS..

„A FLEETING
LIFE UNTIL
THE LYCEE
LINE'S
FINISHED.

SO
THEN!

TIME TO
DITCH THIS
SALON,
TOO!

SO LET'S GO
A HOME OP

SERIOUSLY?

EH?

EH?



GOTTA
MAKE GIRLS
FEEL GOOD
WITHOUT
K.O.M.

UNDER-
STAND?

SO
LET'S DO
K.O.M.!

TO CHI-
FU-N...



I'M REALLY
TIRED FROM
HOST WORK
ALL MORNING!

UNLIKE
YOU, I'M NOT
FREE-LOADING
MY BUTT
OFF HERE.



I CAN MAKE
MORE GIRLS
SMILE AS
A HOST.

HE'S NOT
TAKING
CLIENTS OR
EVEN CALLS
TIL HE'S DONE.

RYOHEI'S BUSY
REMODELING
LOISEAU'S
SALON.

YEAH.

UH...

GONNA...
SLEEP BUT...

DON'T GO
SNEAKING
OFF, KAY?

HOW WOULD
WE GET
GIRLS'
REQUESTS
ANYWAY?



WE THREE
CAN STILL
BE K.O.M.
TOGETHER!

WE DON'T
HAVE TO
BREAK UP!

ONE
WEEK
LATER

HEY..
NOBLO.

"HEY," I
SAID!

YOU
KNOW--

Arbitrary K.O.M. Q&A Corner

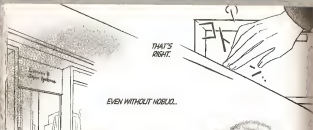
(last)

#6

...in the end, this corner is a place for the author to indulge himself in his own writing so, dear readers, forgive me for rambling here and there. Er, my brain cells are fully operational, even so. Muah. I apologize, my poor readers...

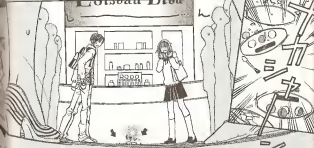
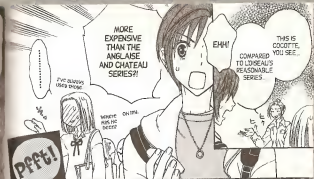
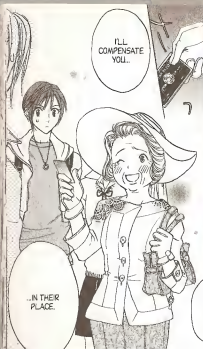
K.O.M. is over but, if you discover new mysteries afterward about the background that you really want to know (of the same level as #2-#5 here), do ask...my heart is thumping in anticipation.

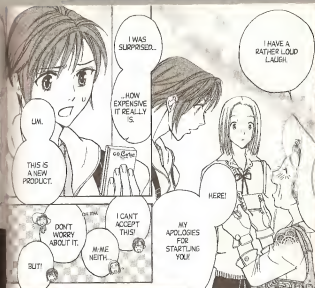
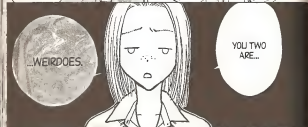
Thanks for sticking with me all this time!





EXPENSE
7/15, 7/16
7/17, 7/18







THIS BEAUTY
BASICS
EXPERT, THIS
TALL, HAIR
ARTIST AND...



...THIS ORLY
CUTE MAKEUP
GUY MADE UP
THE TEAM

THEY HELP
GIRLS WITH
COMPLEXES,
THEY SAY.



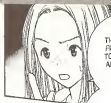
BUT I CAN'T
FIND THE
SITE AT ALL.

HOW
WONDERFUL
THERE
ARE SUCH
PEOPLE!

THAT'S
WHY,
THIS.

OH,
MY.

IT'S GONE TO
FACE WHERE!



THEN MY
FRIENDS
TOLD ME
ABOUT...

...THE
KNOCKOUT
MAKERS.



YOU LOG
ONTO A SITE
THAT OPENS
FOR ONLY
10 MINUTES
AFTER
MIDNIGHT.

IF YOU'RE
LUCKY, THESE
UNIDENTIFIED
BEAUTICIANS
WILL COME.

ERR...
THE NEW
LYCEE
SERIES EYE
COLOR.

A MAG
SAID
IT WAS
SOFT ON
SKIN...

ERR...
THE NEW
LYCEE
SERIES EYE
COLOR.

A MAG
SAID
IT WAS
SOFT ON
SKIN...

ERR...
THE NEW
LYCEE
SERIES EYE
COLOR.

A MAG
SAID
IT WAS
SOFT ON
SKIN...

ERR...
THE NEW
LYCEE
SERIES EYE
COLOR.

A MAG
SAID
IT WAS
SOFT ON
SKIN...

ERR...
THE NEW
LYCEE
SERIES EYE
COLOR.

A MAG
SAID
IT WAS
SOFT ON
SKIN...

I THOUGHT
I'D CONFESS
TO THE GUY
I LIKE.

ACTUALLY...



I DON'T
WANNA
GIVE UP

I WANNA
TELL
HIM HOW
I FEEL...

BUT MY
SKIN'S
STILL
ROUGH, SO...

BUT I STILL
CAN'T
CONFESS
YET

THEN I'D
MAKE HIS
EYES POP!



I THOUGHT
I'D GET
CUTER FOR
MY LONG-
AWAITED
CONFESSION.

BUT I'M
PLAIN-FACED,
NO CONFIDENCE...



SO I STARTED
USING CORNER
STORE
COSMETICS.

LOVE
APRIL

WHAT
COLOR
WOULD SUIT
NIKA-CHAN?

RIGHT,
TOSHIRO-
KUN?

...WE CAN AT
LEAST DO
THE LIPS!

IF WE CAN'T
DO THE EYES...

EH?

OKAY,
NIKA-
CHAN...

OH,
WE HAVE
BOTH

...IF WE
USE PINK
AND
BEIGE...

...LET'S
TRY IT,
OKAY?

O-BUT!

IT'S ALL
RIGHT.

LADY'S

BUT CHEAP
COSMETICS
WON'T WORK
ON MY SKIN.

AWKWARD
TO GO AS A
LOTTERY
CANDIDATE
WITH NO
MAKEUP

"LOISEAU
JAPAN
LYCEE
OPENING
EVENT?"

YEAH

POO
MAKEUP
JOBS FOR
FREE.

CERTAINLY

...HER
EYELIDS
ARE HEAVY,
BUT...

LIK

RYOHEI
WOULD THINK
OF A CURE
FOR HER.

WELL
THEY'RE
NOT HERE
ANYMORE

HEY!

NOBLO
WOULD GIVE
HER A FITTING
HAIRSTYLE.



THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH!



I ALWAYS
GIGGLE WHEN
A GIRL GETS
PRETTY!

EVEN WHEN
IT'S NOT
ME...

???



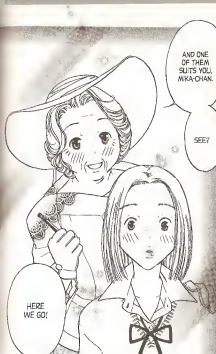
YES,
IT'S ME.

R
R
R

UM...



KAREN-
SAN...



AND ONE
OF THEM
SUITS YOU,
MKA-CHAN.

SEE?

HERE
WE GO!



MY SON
WAS ROUGH
WHEN I
STARTED,
TOO!

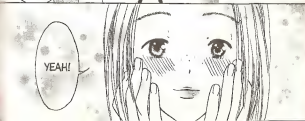


I LOOKED
AND RESEAR-
CHED.

AND FINALLY,
I FOUND
ONE RIGHT
FOR ME.

EVEN FOR
LIPSTICK.

THEY
MAKE THOU-
SANDS OF
COLORS
NOW!



YEAH!



RIGHT?

THIS
MADAM'S IN
AN ADULT
LADY PINCH.

TOO HEAVY
A BURDEN
FOR YOUNG
TOSH-KUN



...IT'S A
MADAM'S
SAD VOICE
CALLING
FOR HELP.

IF THERE'S
ONE THING
MY HEART
CAN'T
RESIST...

HEY,
NOW.

NORUO

SO YOU
DIDN'T
SLEEP.



WHAT'L
I DO?

I HAVE TO
GET THERE
QUICKLY
BUT...

KAREN-
SAN?



...GAVE
OUT!

MY HP.



TOSHIRO-
KUN...

WHERE
SHOULD
WE GO?



I DON'T
THINK SO.

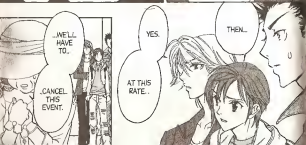
I'LL RUN
WITH YOU
ON MY
BACK

I'LL
TAKE
YOU!

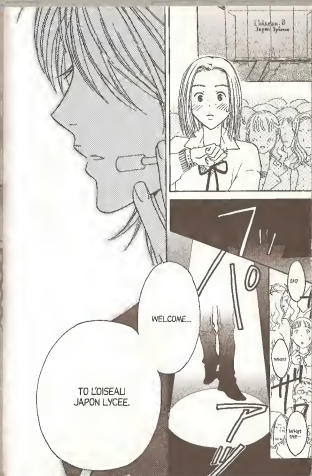


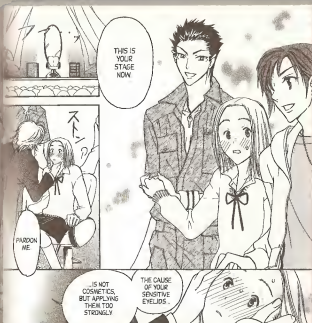
I'M
HEADING
THERE
NOW.

EH?











HOW ABOUT WITH 100 CANDLES ON IT?

SHALL I BAKE A CAKE?

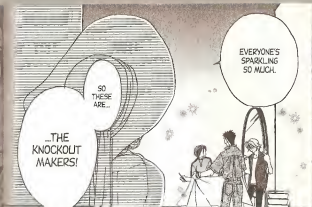
WE HIT 100 PEOPLE TOTAL FOR OUR APPRENTICESHIP THEN!

NO WAY!

TODAY WAS 25 PEOPLE IN ONE DAY.



TRULY, THANK YOU.



SO THESE ARE...

...THE KNOCKOUT MAKERS!

EVERYONE'S SPARKLING SO MUCH.



CAN'T GRIP A BRUSH OR CURLER...

NE NEITHER

CAN'T MOVE MY RIGHT HAND

I'M ALL CLUT AND TWIRLED OUT!

WELL OF COURSE NOT.



WAY
TO GO!



I LOVE THIS JOB...

...CAUSE I LOVE THEM.

THANK
YOU,
KAREN-
SAN!

I'M
REALLY
HAPPY!



K.O.M.
DOESN'T
HAVE...

...TO
BREAK
UP?



PLEASE.

YES!



WHAT A
SPLENDID
DAY!

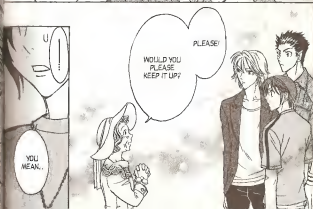
MY
HEART'S SO
SURPRISED
AND
DEEPLY
MOVED...



KAREN-
SAN...



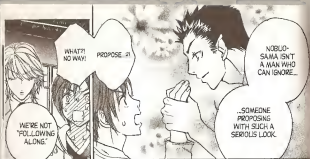
...FOR THE STAFF
GATHERING DATA
FOR THE LYCEE
LINE RESEARCH.



PLEASE!

WOULD YOU
PLEASE
KEEP IT UP?

YOU
MEAN...



WHAT?
NO WAY!

PROPOSE?

NOBUO-
SAMA ISN'T
A MAN WHO
CAN IGNORE...

WE'RE NOT
"FOLLOWING
ALONG."

...SOMEONE
PROPOSING
WITH SUCH A
SERIOUS LOOK.



I'LL BE
WAITING AT
THE HOST
CLUB IN IZUL.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT!

I WANTED
TO GO TO
THE FRANCE
HOME
OFFICE.

IT
DECIDED
LONG
AGO...

OR DID
YOU
HOPE...

AH, JEEZ!

...I WOULD
WAIT HERE
IN JAPAN
FOR YOU?

CUT THAT
OUT, YOU
TWO!

NEW YORK
FLYERS USE
COMMUNAS &
THEROUGH &



YOU'RE
REALLY OKAY
WITH THIS?



"I WANT TO
BE A MAN
CAPABLE OF
SUPPORTING
THEM NEXT
TIME."

"I REALIZED
HOW
NOBUO AND
RYOHEI'VE
BEEN SOFT
ON ME."

"SO I'LL
RETURN TO
AMERICA
AND POLISH
MY MAKEUP
SKILLS."

IT'S NOT LIKE
YOU HAVE TO
STOP K.O.M.
WITH ME.

NOBUO,
RYOHEI...



WHAT
WAS
THAT?

LIKE
THAT?

'IN THE
END...



K.O.M. IS A MYSTERIOUS
BEAUTY GROUP
COMPOSED OF...

7 Years
later

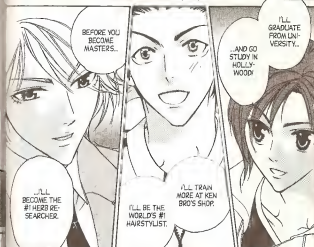


YEAH.

INDEED.

GUESS
I'D BETTER
GET GOING.

... I'D
PREFER TO
SEEK #15.



BEFORE YOU
BECOME
MASTERS...

I'LL
BECOME THE
#1 HERO RE-
SEARCHER.

I'LL BE THE
WORLD'S #1
HAIRSTYLIST.

I'LL TRAIN
MORE AT KEN
BRO'S SHOP.

...AND GO
STUDY IN
HOLLY-
WOOD!

I'LL
GRADUATE
FROM UNI-
VERSITY...



...SEE
YOU
LATER!

OKAY...



truly, thank you very much.

FINALLY! FINALLY! FINALLY! VOLUME THREE IS COMPLETE. YAY!!! BANZAI!!

YOUR INSUFFICIENT AUTHOR SOMEHOW MANAGED TO GET TOSHIKURO, NORIJO AND RYOHEI IN COSPLAY OUTFITS, CHANGING HAIRSTYLES, DRESSING TOSHIKURO UP AS A GIRL... ETC... IT WAS TOUGH BUT, AS THEY SAY, ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL...

TRULY, DRAWING THIS UNTIL THE VERY END WAS HARD WORK. (WHEN I LOOK BACK ON...) TO ALL OF MY EDITOR'S EVERYONE INVOLVED IN PUBLISHING, MY FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND ALL OF YOU READERS OF THIS BOOK!! IT'S REALLY ALL THANKS TO YOU I'LL TRY TWICE AS HARD TO DRAW FUN THINGS FOR YOU IN THE FUTURE. YOU JUST WAIT, I'LL TRY HARD SO WE MEET AGAIN AFTER ANOTHER STORY.

DO SEND LETTERS WITH YOURS THOUGHTS TO:
 ►KNOCKOUT MAKERS FANMAIL
 C/O TOKYOPOP
 9900 WILSHIRE BLVD, SUITE #3000
 LOS ANGELES, CA

HASHIMOTO
 2005/7/1 LUCKY DAY

THE KNOCKOUT MAKERS/END



...AND A
 SOMEWHAT
 MORE
 MATURE
 MAKEUP
 ARTIST.

DON'T GET
 SPACED
 FROM JET
 LAG, GUYS.

...A BEAUTY
 BASICS
 EXPERT...

...A TALL
 HAIR-
 STYLIST...

WORK
 SO SOON
 AFTER
 OUR
 RETURN?

LIKE
 HECK WE
 WOULD!



NOW

...TIME
 FOR
 WORK!

➔ Never say never again!

CHAPTER 15/END